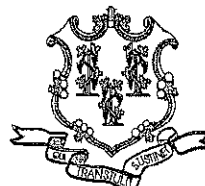




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Public Hearing Testimony  
Appropriations Committee  
March 22, 2013



***H.B. No. 6616 AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S PREVENTION BUDGET***

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) **supports** H.B. No. 6616, An Act Concerning the Governor's Prevention Budget. The bill repeals section 4-67v, which requires the preparation of a prevention report to accompany the Governor's budget.

While DCF and other state agencies have participated in the preparation of this report over the past several years, the compilation of a formal report is somewhat labor-intensive at a time when the agency has had to make due with fewer staff in our fiscal office. Information regarding our prevention programs is disseminated in many forums and is provided in-depth via our participation on the Child Poverty and Prevention Council.

DCF has strived to promote a range of services that enable children and families to thrive independently in their communities and to apply evidence-based or best practice prevention approaches at strategic points in the DCF continuum of care to ensure a smooth, timely and sustained transition for children, youth and families from DCF involvement to a state of independence and well being or to prevent DCF involvement altogether. We believe that we have been effective over the past two years in promoting greater use of community-based prevention and intervention programs as an alternative to costly out-of-home care programs.